

AIR NEWS

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Internet Address: www.eq.state.ut.us/eqair/sbap/sbap3.htm

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Mity-Lite Reduces Air Pollution

Mity-Lite, a manufacturer of lightweight folding tables and chairs, avoided the complexities of the Clean Air Act's operating permit program by reducing air emissions. Mity-Lite is converting to a reactive hot-melt technology as a means to lessen regulatory burdens, reduce air pollution and produce a better quality

"We needed a high-tech adhesive that is resistant to high or low temperatures and environmentally friendly,"

product.

The Orem company's efforts at reducing air pollution are viewed as a success story by the Division of Air Quality's Small Business Assistance Program which promotes using pollution prevention methods to reduce air pollution.

The new system replaces a solvent-based glue containing methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), a hazardous air pollutant. The solvent-based glue was used to bind wooden frames to plastic table components. The Clean Air Act requires companies that can emit more than 10 tons of a single

hazardous air pollutant yearly to submit a Title V permit application.

The move to the new system was motivated by the Clean Air Act's Title V permitting requirements. The search to produce a better product also may ensure long-term survival in a competitive market.

"We needed a high-tech adhesive that is resistant to high or low temperatures and environmentally friendly," said Research and Development Vice President Brent Bonham. "A run-of-the-mill hot-melt adhesive won't accomplish that."

Mity-Lite's pollution prevention efforts do not end with MEK's elimination. They also

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Internet Tools for the Small Business

Internet provides a massive resource of information for small businesses. You can think of it as a huge electronic library or mall with many different shops. The challenge is finding what you need in a timely manner. You'll need a computer, a telephone modem, an Internet provider and a



computer program to make them work together if you want to "surf the net."

To find a subject you use a software program called a search engine, like Webcrawler, Yahoo, or AltaVista. The best way find something is to start with a specific topic. If you don't get results, expand the search to more general terms. The information you find can be saved or printed

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Playing The Compliance Game

Does learning to comply with state and federal rules sometimes make you feel like trying to learn chess when you've just mastered playing checkers? The compliance game too has rules although they're not always easily understood. But just like chess or checkers, once you learn the game and play by the rules, you'll be a winner.

As in chess where different pieces have different ranks and levels of power, each enforcement action is ranked differently depending upon its meaning, the type of information required and the level of enforcement power it carries. Knowing the rules of the game and understanding what they mean is important.



Let's talk about the different forms an enforcement action can come in. The first and least offensive is the Source Compliance Action Notification or SCAN. This letter warns businesses a potential violation was found and must be corrected to avoid further more unpleasant enforcement action. Recipients usually have 15 days to submit required information in a compliance plan.

A compliance plan is really

just a list of actions the company agrees to take to remedy potential violations and the time it will take to do so. A SCAN is usually issued for a first-time offense. The SCAN will be followed-up by a Notice of Violation, or NOV, if the required information is not submitted.

A NOV, the second step on the enforcement ladder, is more powerful than a SCAN. A NOV is usually issued in cases where the business has neglected to respond to a SCAN or has committed previous offenses. The NOV contains all applicable rules, Approval Order conditions and statutes that have been violated.

The business must respond to and correct these violations within a given time frame to avoid further legal action. If the company fails to respond, monetary penalties may be assessed. The amount of the penalty is based on several factors such as: the type of violation, the amount of harm caused to others or the environment, compliance history, if the violation was intentional and degree of cooperativeness. Repeated violations may include additional NOV's, more severe penalties and may lead to an Order to Cease and Desist operations.

An Order to Cease and Desist requires the company to immediately halt illegal activity until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Division of Air Quality (DAQ). Both the NOV and the Order to Cease and Desist require a meeting between DAQ

and the business. The business must contact the individual in charge of the inspection to arrange a meeting time.

The most important rule to remember, no matter what type of enforcement action you receive, is: heed the deadline date specified in the letter and don't hesitate to call DAQ at (801) 536-4000 if you have a problem or need help understanding details.

Mity-Lite

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converted to a powder-based coating system for painting metal components. Air emissions are negligible and hazardous waste disposal minimal.

"The powder-coat system was initially more expensive, but environmental-wise, quality-wise, and efficiency-wise, it was the right decision," said Manufacturing Vice President Kenneth Law. "We just wish we could have done it two years ago."

The company also recovers approximately 30 percent of their virgin material by using a regrounding process. The material is reground in-house then sent to the supplier for processing. The supplier keeps Mity-Lite's reground product separate from other customers' products to ensure quality.

A commitment to quality is evident throughout the business. Others have noticed that commitment too. Last year Mity-Lite was recognized as one of the "200 best" companies by Forbes Magazine, and awarded the Wasatch Crest Award by Wasatch Crest Mutual Insurance.

Surfing the Net

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and used for future reference material. You should also bookmark the site so you can return quickly without having to type in the address or rediscover the path.

The Division of Air Quality's (DAQ) home page can be accessed through the Utah State home page. Choose Environmental Quality under state agencies. All Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) divisions have home pages which are listed on the main page.

DAQ's home page has information on many subjects including environmental conditions, Air Quality Board agendas and minutes, training opportunities, permitting information and how-to's, Air Rules and plans to clean-up the air.

Located on the Air Quality home page is the Small Business Assistance Program's (SBAP) page which describes SBAP and includes a free down-loadable software package called Solvent Alternative Guide (SAGE). SAGE asks the user a series of questions, and based on the response, provides recommendations for environmentally friendly solvent replacements in cleaning and degreasing operations.

More specialized sites, like pollution prevention, can be useful because the information is not as widely known. The following sites may give you tips on how to reduce your air emissions and save money:

Enviro\$en\$e is a resource library maintained by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA). One interesting area at this site is called Industry Sector Notebooks. There are 18 different notebooks including dry cleaning, electronics and computers, lumber and wood products. The sector notebooks include industrial process information, pollution prevention (P2) tips, and regulatory requirements.

Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center is a nonprofit organization offering P2 technology reviews, publications, newsletters and much more.

Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable maintains two informational databases: TECHINFO catalogs books held by P2 libraries in EPA. VEND-INFO lists P2 equipment vendors and products.

Environmental Internet Resources for Small Business

Search Engines

Webcrawler
<http://www.webcrawler.com>

Yahoo
<http://www.yahoo.com>

Alta Vista
<http://www.altavista.digital.com>

Pollution Prevention

Enviro\$en\$e
<http://es.inel.gov/>

Pacific Northwest P2 Resource Center
<http://pprc.pnl.gov:80/pprc>

Great Lakes Regional P2 Roundtable
<http://www.hazard.uiuc.edu/wmrc/greatl>

State Government

Department of Environmental Quality
<http://www.eq.state.ut.us>

Division of Air Quality
<http://www.eq.state.ut.us/eqair/aq>

Small Business Assistance Program
<http://www.eq.state.ut.us/eqair/sbap/sbap3.htm>

Federal Government

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<http://www.epa.gov>



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Calendar of Events

Wood Products Manufacturing and Finishing Workshop

Nov. 21; 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; Salt Lake Community College

This practical workshop will address: 1) New CNC Technology and Equipment, 2) New Air Quality Requirements, 3) Developments in Coating Technology, and 4) Developments in Adhesive Technology

Sponsored by Utah Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the National Association for Secondary Wood Industry Technology Transfer. For more information, contact Rick Orr at (801) 626-7514 in Ogden or (801) 957-3485 in SLC.

Air-conditioning/Appliance Technician Certification Program:

First Tuesday of the Month; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Utah Power & Light Service Center, 1569 W. North Temple, SLC

For more information, contact Steve Arbuckle at (801) 486-4401.

RSES International Seminar on Indoor Air Quality

Nov. 8 & 9; 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Wyndham Hotel (Old Doubletree), SLC

Speaker: Joe D. Gifford; For more information, contact Steve Arbuckle at (801) 486-4401.

Green and Profitable Printing '97

Dec 9; 8 a.m. -10:30 a.m.; Utah Division of Air Quality, 150 N 1950 West (North Temple), SLC

This program reviews key environmental compliance issues for small to medium-sized lithographic printers.

For more information, contact Ron Reece at (801) 536-4091.

Compliance Deadlines Arrive for Air Quality Standards

Wood furniture manufacturing industry:

Compliance Date (Company mails in compliance notification): **Nov. 21, 1997.**

Applies to businesses emitting more than 50 tons/year of hazardous air pollutants.

For more information, contact Frances Bernards at (801) 536-4056.